

to regulate offshore drilling operations. Requires the Commission to develop recommendations to ensure that offshore drilling is overseen by career professionals who will give safety the highest priority, and not be improperly influenced by political appointees or the regulated industry.

FUNDING FOR AGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Authorized Level of Coast Guard Personnel: H.R. 5629 authorizes an end-of-year strength for active-duty Coast Guard personnel of 47,300 for fiscal year 2011, of which not less than 300 personnel shall be assigned to implement the activities required of the Coast Guard by this Act.

Authorization of Appropriations from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund: H.R. 5629 specifically authorizes appropriations from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund for the Coast Guard, EPA, and DOT to carry out this Act.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MARINES CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD, JOEL RANGEL, AND CLAYTON YOUNG

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant Christopher Lee Arnold, Master Sergeant Joel Ascension Rangel, and Gunnery Sergeant Clayton Roy Young of the Marine Battle Color Detachment who are each retiring after more than 20 years of service in the Marine Corps.

The Battle Color Detachment features the U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the Silent Drill Platoon, and the Marine Corps Color Guard. All are attached to Marine Barracks, Washington, DC, also known as the "Oldest Post of the Corps." These Marines appear in hundreds of ceremonies annually across the country and abroad.

I would like to express my personal gratitude to these three Marines who were a part of the Marine Battle Color Detachment when they visited Connecticut's First Congressional District in October of 2008. In conjunction with a traveling replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall during its 25th anniversary, they gave a moving performance before the residents of the Connecticut State Veterans Home and over 3,000 attendees at Rentschler Field in East Hartford. These Marines have performed and helped facilitate many events such as these in Connecticut, across the country and around the world. Everywhere the Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment performs, they instill in all an enormous amount of pride for our Armed Forces and the nation as a whole. This Congress and the people of the United States of America owe these three recently retired Marine NCO's a significant debt of gratitude for all of their service:

Master Sergeant Christopher Lee Arnold began his enlistment on July 1, 1990 and will retire on July 31, 2010 after twenty years of service.

Master Sergeant Joel Ascension Rangel began his enlistment on September 12, 1989 and will retire on June 30, 2010 after twenty years of service.

Gunnery Sergeant Clayton Roy Young began his enlistment on August 15, 1988 and will retire on August 31, 2010 after twenty-two years of service.

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

SPEECH OF

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before you, expressing my strong support for H. Con. Res. 284, appreciating the work and recognizing the special education teachers of our nation.

First, I would like to thank Congressman PETE SESSIONS of Texas and all of the co-sponsors, for recognizing these important people in our education system. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Chairman GEORGE MILLER and Ranking Member JOHN KLINE of the Committee on Education & Labor for supporting this resolution. This bill recognizes the profound dedication that these teachers have for their students, and the general community.

I would like to commend our special education teachers for continuing a phenomenal job. Not only do I respect their enduring patience and commitment, I applaud them on how much they have contributed to their local education systems. On a daily basis, these individuals must be able to motivate their students and push them past their limitations, and at the same time help them to mature and become productive members of society.

Not only have these teachers helped the many special needs students to achieve in school, but they have also formed a support system for the many parents and families. They are the warm counsel to the students and their loved ones. They are entrusted to help the students succeed in their education. These teachers continue to encompass a genuine and dedicated work ethic.

In American Samoa's education system, we have implemented a significant amount of special education programs into our schools. Importantly, we have integrated the special needs students in the mainstream education system. I would personally like to commend those teachers, for their enthusiasm and effort with our children. We, as the Congress, must continue to provide the tools and support for the special needs teachers and their students, especially during these times of economic strife.

We are reminded that in 1972 the United States Supreme Court granted children with disabilities with the same right to receive 'quality' education. Without our special education teachers and the efforts of many others to provide for the children with special needs, this clearly would not have been possible.

Even as these individuals are faced with maybe, the most emotional and mentally stressful challenges, their continuous work in fostering and assisting our children is inspiring.

I strongly urge my colleagues to pass this resolution.

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in support of H. Con. Res. 284, "Recognizing the work and importance of special education teachers." I would like to thank my colleague from Texas for shedding light on this very demanding and vital occupation.

Special education teachers teach students with both physical and mental impairments. A physical impairment is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as: "Any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, hemic and lymphatic, skin, and endocrine."

A mental impairment is defined by the ADA as: "Any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities."

Neither the statute nor the regulations list all diseases or conditions that make up "physical or mental impairments," because it would be impossible to provide a comprehensive list, given the variety of possible impairments. However, the number of disabilities covered by the ADA continues to grow, as has the number of people diagnosed with learning disabilities. For example, it is estimated that between 3 and 5 percent of children have met criteria for diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). This represents approximately 2 million children in the United States, and means that in a classroom of 25 to 30 children, it is likely that at least one will have ADHD. In total, according to the U.S. Department of Education, approximately 6,500,000 children (roughly 10 percent of all school-aged children) receive special education services.

Mr. Speaker, it is said that "The highest cost of an education is not getting one." In 1972, the United States Supreme Court ruled that children with disabilities have the same right to receive a quality education in the public schools as their nondisabled peers. Because of this ruling, special education teachers had to be prepared to handle these students and their individual needs.

Special education teachers work with children and young adults who have a range of disabilities. A small number of special education teachers work with students with severe cognitive, emotional, or physical disabilities, primarily teaching them life skills and basic literacy. However, the majority of special education teachers work with children with mild to moderate disabilities, modifying the general education curriculum to meet the individual needs of the child and providing required corrective instruction. Today there are over 370,000 highly qualified special education teachers in the United States.

Special education teachers use various techniques to promote learning. Depending on

the student, teaching methods can include intensive individualized instruction, problem-solving assignments, and small-group work. Special education teachers ensure that appropriate accommodations are provided, such as having material read orally, or lengthening the time allowed to take the test for students who need special accommodations to learn the general curriculum or to take a test. In some cases, teachers also provide students with career counseling or help them learn life skills, such as balancing a checkbook.

Helping these students can be highly rewarding and gratifying for the teacher, but the work also can be emotionally demanding and physically draining. Teachers are often consumed with paper work and burdened with a heavy workload—not to mention administrative responsibilities. The teacher is responsible for assessing the student's progress toward gaining the knowledge necessary to pass the course as well as consider the students' progress coping with their learning disability.

I applaud the steadfastness of all teachers for their diligence in teaching our youth and preparing them for the future. I am grateful for special educational instructors, who not only must deal with the curriculum of a classroom, but must also manage all of the other factors that may impede learning. Because of this, I strongly support H. Con Res. 284 and I encourage my colleagues to join me.

RECOGNITION OF DENNIS GUEST FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dennis Guest, Executive Director of the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), as he retires from a lifelong career as an affordable housing advocate. During 24 years at CMHA, Dennis supervised 250 employees administering Housing Choice Vouchers for approximately 12,500 families, distributing over \$77,000,000 to rental property owners, and managing 3,147 apartments in Franklin County, Ohio.

Dennis facilitated the Rebuilding Lives Initiative and fostered partnerships with the City of Columbus, Franklin County, Community Shelter Board, United Way, ADAMH Board, and other non-profit organizations to provide the best housing and supportive services to 34,000 residents. As a result of his hard work and dedication, CMHA is strategically positioned for success well into the future.

Prior to this position, Dennis served as the Director of Housing Management at the San Francisco Housing Authority and the Executive Assistant at the Oakland Housing Authority. He was also a VISTA Volunteer at the Seattle Housing Authority and Assistant Public Housing Manager in Detroit, Michigan.

Devoted to public service, Dennis sits on the Funders Collaborative of the Community Shelter Board, Joint Columbus and Franklin County Housing Advisory Board, Housing Vision Council of United Way, and is President of the Assisted Housing Services Corporation.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in wishing Dennis and his wife Bernadette a happy retirement after years of dedication to

the affordable housing needs of Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio.

HONORING THE CITY OF CHANDLER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the City of Chandler on its 50th anniversary of incorporation on July 10th.

Alphonso Chandler and his brother Haskell moved their families from Georgia to the area located between Kickapoo Creek and the Neches River in 1859. As one of the first settlers in the area, Alphonso built a general store on his property. A U.S. Post Office was added in 1873, under the name of Stillwater. The Cotton Belt Railroad later made its way to the area in 1880, and Mr. Chandler deeded land to the Texas and St. Louis Railroad for tracks and a depot. Mr. Chandler also donated property for schools, churches and a cemetery. A new community grew around the railroad.

What many may not know is that Chandler is the birthplace of Senator Ralph Yarborough who represented Texas in the U.S. Senate from 1957 to 1971. Many of his personal and public effects can be found at the Chandler Public Library.

Chandler has become a gateway to Lake Palestine, a beautiful body of water that is home to many migratory birds and waterfowl, as well as great fishing and recreational boating. Traveling on South FM 315, one might catch a glimpse of our nation's emblem, the bald eagle, soaring over the lake.

Chandler is a growing community and its citizens live by its motto, "City with a Heart." I would like to congratulate the City of Chandler on its 50th anniversary of incorporation and recognize its citizens, both past and present, who have given so much to build a vibrant community.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3962, which will protect patient access to their doctors and prevent a 21 percent cut in Medicare payments to doctors, and also boost physician payments by 2.2 percent through November 30.

Congress has spent the last decade—under both Republican and Democratic leadership—overriding the Sustainable Growth Rate, SGR, formula to prevent America's doctors from facing pay cuts in Medicare and to ensure seniors can keep their doctor.

Last November, the House passed H.R. 3961, the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act, permanently fixing the SGR. Democrats have long recognized that this formula is fundamentally flawed and have been working

to fix it only to be stymied by Republicans in the Senate. This bill, though necessary, will require Congress to review the formula again in December when the current fix expires.

Temporary fixes are not the answer. We must have a permanent solution to this problem to protect our Medicare patients and retired military veterans.

I urge my colleagues to work toward a permanent fix of the Sustainable Growth Rate.

HONORING SERGEANT DAVID PARKS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant David Parks's 31 years of exemplary service in law enforcement, in honor of his retirement from the Newark, California, Police Department.

Sergeant Parks began his law enforcement career as a 2-year public safety officer with the Brisbane Department of Public Safety. He was then hired as a police officer with the Newark Police Department in September 1981, where he served for 29 years.

As a police officer at the Newark Police Department, Sergeant Parks served 1 year as a fraud detective and 3 years as a Crimes Against Persons detective. In July 2004, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and served in a variety of positions including patrol sergeant, community safety team sergeant, and detective sergeant.

During his tenure with the Newark Police Department, Sergeant Parks had held many collateral duties such as field training officer, FTO; FTO Sergeant, criminal evidence response team, CERT, member; CERT supervisor; trauma response team; traffic officer; acting sergeant; SWAT team member; Alameda County arson task force member; and composite sketch artist.

I join the City of Newark in expressing appreciation for Sergeant Parks's leadership and commitment during his service in the Newark Police Department. I rise to thank him for his stewardship for public safety and wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING SCOTT URBAN

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. WALZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Scott Urban, a teacher from Mankato West High School in Mankato, MN.

Scott was one of two recipients this year to receive the Minnesota WEM Foundation Outstanding Educator Award for Teacher Achievement.

This award recognizes exemplary teachers who support, inspire and assist students to attain greater learning. The recipients of this award are nominated by students, parents, colleagues, and community members—the people who know the difference a good teacher can make.